



Nevada GEAR UP Program – Year Four

Subgrantee: Elko County School District

Name of School: Owyhee Combined School
P.O. 100
Owyhee, Nevada 89832
E-mail Address: Gwen Thacker, Principal
gthacker@elko.k12.nv.us

Owyhee High School Abstract 2004-05

The latest accountability data from 2003-04 indicates that approximately 95% of the Owyhee High School population consists of Native American students, mostly from the Shoshone and Paiute tribes. Data from 2003-04 indicates a high school enrollment of 128 students; a high percentage qualify for Free and Reduced Lunch.

As tenth graders, the GEAR UP cohort will be faced with the challenges of the Nevada State Proficiency Exam in both math and reading. Owyhee High School will continue to use the 'Accelerated Math' program to help students advance their mathematics skills. The tutor will be available daily in a study hall or after school for special attention to those GEAR UP students whose GPA's have fallen below the 2.0 mark and/or who are failing in a subject. A certified staff member will be an on-site facilitator to supervise tutoring and student achievement.

The peer mentoring program will continue, with upperclassmen helping the GEAR UP cohort members through difficulties in and out of school. Students will receive enrichment through a variety of experiences, including presentations by district personnel on goal-setting, anger management, citizenship and career development. Those at risk will be able to attend the Teen Discovery class being offered each semester. In addition to attending the Elko Annual Career Fair in October, students will travel into Utah to view both academic and technical colleges. In the spring, students may go into Idaho and eastern Oregon, visiting La Grande's and Pendleton's educational and cultural offerings. Owyhee High School will plan for at least three main meetings during the next school year.

The Shoshone-Paiute Tribal headquarters now has a fully functioning computer lab for the community to use. Owyhee High School plans to partner with the Tribe to purchase necessary software to build student and parent skills. During the summer, the school expects to collaborate on summer reading and math programs to continue standardized test preparation and academic enrichment. Owyhee High School will also work with the Tribal Youth Employment Program to help students find summer jobs.

In FY04-05, we will continue to provide staff development opportunities for our instructors regarding student achievement. During the next year, the high school will fully utilize the District's Professional Development staff to assist teachers in a variety of trainings.